

NEW RESOURCE: NCCP 50-State Policy Tracker Shows State Safety Nets Not Available To All Poor Working Families

State policy doesn't always work in favor of the children and families most in need. Even though safety net programs are intended to help low-income working families cover basic needs, a family could still face policies that discourage saving for emergencies or bar them from critical nutrition assistance programs. In fact, earning and saving more money can actually make some families worse off financially when states set very [restrictive eligibility requirements for important work supports](#). It all depends on which state they call home.

To help policymakers and advocates spot innovative approaches to support the neediest families, the National Center for Children in Poverty recently launched its [50-State Policy Tracker](#), an online analysis tool that compares state economic assistance programs. The Policy Tracker can help identify best practices to alleviate poverty by comparing safety net policies, revealing variation among states, and modeling how policy choices can help low-income working parents succeed in making ends meet.

The [NCCP 50-State Policy Tracker](#) makes it easy for policymakers, journalists, social researchers, and advocates to quickly and accurately compare state policies and programs vital to the well-being of low-income families. Using state data for important social policies and programs including the Earned Income Tax Credit; family and medical leave; TANF; SNAP; and Medicaid, the tracker allows users to compare impacts in a single state, states in the Northeast, Midwest, South, and West, or all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Find out more information at www.nccp.org/tools/policy.